Entergy

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2CAN100113

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
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Subject: Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 2
Docket No. 50-368
License No. NPF-6
Supplemental Information Regarding Main
Transformer Cooling for Power Uprate

Gentlemen:

By application dated December 19, 2000 (2CAN120001), Entergy Operations, Inc. submitted an "Application for License Amendment to Increase Authorized Power Level." The requested power increase is 7.5%. The third paragraph of Section 2.2.3.2 of Enclosure 5 (page 2-7) to the license application states, "Additional main transformer cooling will be installed during 2R15." Contrary to that statement, this modification has been deferred and will not be installed during Refueling Outage 2R15. The decision to defer this modification was based on scheduling and commercial aspects associated with refueling outage 2R15. There are no safety concerns with deferring this modification. The basis for this decision is provided below.

A significant amount of life remains in these transformers since they have operated at less than rated capacity since installation. The calculated insulation remaining life per Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE) Standard C57.91, "IEEE Guide for Loading Mineral-Oil-Immersed Transformers," is still greater than 90%.

Absent additional cooling capability, operation of the Unit 2 Main Transformers at the 7.5% uprated power level will result in degradation of the transformers at an increased rate when compared to the degradation rate prior to 2R15 due to the increased load on the transformers. This increased degradation rate is expected to shorten transformer life. However, even with a shortened life, the transformers are more than capable of operating at uprated conditions due to the extra capacity designed into these transformers (i.e., these transformers are capable of operating at greater than 100% of their rating). Application of loads in excess of the nameplate rating involves minimal risk; therefore, delaying the

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installation of additional cooling until a later outage was deemed acceptable considering the capability of the existing transformers. The engineering staff will continue to evaluate the operation of these transformers following the power uprate to determine the appropriate timing for the cooling upgrade.

This submittal contains no regulatory commitments.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on October 30, 2001.

Very truly yours,

Glenn R. Ashley
Manager, Licensing

GRA/dwb

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